

HITCHIN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1963

HITCHIN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T S

O F T H E

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

A N D T H E

C H I E F P U B L I C H E A L T H I N S P E C T O R

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HITCHIN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

1963 - 1964

COUNCILLORS:

Chairman of the Council

A. R. G. PRICE J.P.

Vice-Chairman

F.A. MILLARD, J.P.

Chairman	-	Public Health Committee	-	S.C.L. Ashford.
A.J. Boore				J.F. Osborne
P.S. Drury				Mrs. P.L.M. Price
G.J. Graves				W.K. Purdie
E. Harding				J. Reilly
R. Harper				J.H. Sayer
G.F. Hendry				K.B. Warwick

W. WILSON, F.C.C.S.
Clerk of the Council.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF, 1963

Medical Officer of Health

VICTOR R. WALKER, M.B., Ch.B., B.Sc., D.P.H.
(Also Divisional M.O. for North Herts.)

Chief Public Health Inspector:

NORMAN HOLT, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.,
Certs. R.S. Health (1. Meat and Foods 2. Smoke)

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Additional Public Health Inspectors:

DONALD ALFRED FOGG, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.
Certs. R.S. Health (1. Meat and Foods 2. Smoke) (To 25.8.63)

HARRY FORREST, M.A.P.H.I.
Certs. R.S. Health (Meat and Foods)

ANTHONY MORGAN, M.A.P.H.I.
Certs. R.S. Health (Meat and Foods) (From 21.10.63)

HAROLD FREDERICK JOHNSON, M.A.P.H.I.
Certs. R.S. Health (Meat and Foods) (From 11.11.63. - 22.12.63.)

Pupil Public Health Inspector:
Anthony Swain (To 26.1.64.)

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- 1 -

CLERICAL STAFF:

MR. J.D. DAVIDSON.

MISS G. CHALKLEY. (To 5.9.63.)

MRS. E.M. MCLEOD (From 9.9.63.)

OFFICES

Medical Officer of Health:

Divisional Health Office, Bedford Road, Hitchin. Tel. 50411/4

Chief Public Health Inspector:

Council Offices, Brand Street, Hitchin. Tel. 4471/5

- 1 -

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HITCHIN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1963

To the Chairman and Members of the Council,

Mrs. Price and Gentlemen,

I submit the above annual report on the direction of Ministry Circular 1/64.

For 1963 the local death rate of 13.8 considerably exceeds the figure for England and Wales (12.2). Such death rate would seem mainly due to the presence in the local population of a higher than average proportion of elderly age groups. In this connection the tabulation of local deaths supplied by the Registrar General records that 78% of local deaths occurred at ages of 65 years or over, with 55% at ages of 75 or over. Application of the comparability factor supplied (0.87) gives a standardised death rate for your district of 12.0.

For a second year the local birth rate considerably exceeds the national figure, due probably to completion in recent years of a considerable number of new houses.

The lower than national average local infant mortality rate for the district is just balanced by a higher than average stillbirth rate.

During the year there is again seen to have been no local occurrence of serious infectious disease.

I would acknowledge having received during the year every assistance from your Council and its chief officers; particularly from Mr. Holt, your Chief Public Health Inspector, who is responsible for the attached report on sanitary matters.

Your obedient servant,

V.R. WALKER.

District Medical Officer of Health.

June, 1964

SECTION A.LOCAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	.. .. ..	3,850
Home Population - Registrar General's		
estimate for mid-1963	.. .. ..	24,440
Number of inhabited houses at 1st April, 1964		8,195
Rateable value as at 1st April, 1964	.. ..	£1,335,034
Estimated Product of a Penny Rate for 1964/5		£5,510

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FORTHE YEAR 1963

HITCHIN Comparable
 URBAN Rate for
 ENGLAND
 DISTRICT. AND WALES.

LIVE BIRTHS.

	<u>Totals</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	474	227	247
Illegitimate	49	24	25
	<hr/> 523	<hr/> 251	<hr/> 272

Rate per 1,000 population	.. ..	21.4	18.2
Illegitimate live births per cent of			
total live births	.. ..	9.4%	

STILLBIRTHS.

	<u>Totals</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	14	8	6
Illegitimate	1	1	-
	<hr/> 15	<hr/> 9	<hr/> 6

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still)			
births	.. ..	27.9	17.3

TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS.

HITCHIN Comparable
URBAN Rate for
DISTRICT ENGLAND
 AND WALES.

<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
538	260	278

DEATHS

<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
338	168	170

Rate per 1,000 population 13.8 12.2

INFANT DEATHS.

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Under 1 week	5	3	2
1 - 4 weeks	1	-	1
4 - 52 weeks	1	1	-
	7	4	3

Infant Mortality Rates.

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total
live births 13.4 20.9

Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000
legitimate live births 12.7

Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000
illegitimate live births 20.4

Neo-Natal Mortality Rate

(deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000
total live births) 11.5 14.2

Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate

(deaths under 1 week per 1,000
total live births) 9.6

HITCHIN	Comparable
URBAN	Rate for
DISTRICT	ENGLAND
	AND WALES.

Perinatal Mortality Rate (Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births) .. 37.2

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of deaths	.. .. .	None	
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	.. .. .	0.0	0.28

COMMENT ON LOCAL VITAL STATISTICS.

The estimated local mid-year population shows a further considerable rise of 370 while local live births (523) are well above the figure of 488 for 1962.

Deaths from Cancer (all sites) numbered 60, of which total 12 (all males) were from Cancer of the lung or bronchus. Five deaths (4 males and 1 female) among local residents occurred from motor vehicle accidents, against total of 4 for 1962 and 3 for 1961.

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

These are unchanged.

SECTIONS C - E.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA, HOUSING AND INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODS.

Full reports on the above are contained in the attached report of your Chief Public Health Inspector.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Total notifications of acute infectious diseases received during the year (after correction) number:- Measles - 50, Whooping Cough - 3, Acute pneumonia - 1, and Scarlet fever - 1.

No notifications of enteric illness or food poisoning were received during the year and there was no report of other serious infectious disease within the district.

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

With no national alarms during the year efforts were directed to obtaining primary vaccination of infants during the second year of life, the recently revised policy recommended by the Ministry of Health.

IMMUNISATION

The standard use of a TRIPLE antigen - against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus - continued to be urged in three separate injections between 6 and 18 months, with a fourth (booster) dose at the age of infant school entry. There is locally a high degree of parental acceptance.

Against poliomyelitis the routine exhibition to infants of three separate doses of SABIN vaccine by the mouth continued unchanged. With the near-disappearance nationally of reported cases there is a considerable percentage of missed appointments for second and third oral doses, possibly through parental forgetfulness since a vaccine dose by mouth is now so undramatic. It is expected that in future an extra (booster) dose of such anti-poliomyelitis oral vaccine will be offered to children and other contacts whenever and wherever a single case of the disease has been confirmed.

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and deaths during the Year 1963.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 - 1								
2 - 5								
5 - 15		1						
15 - 25								
25 - 35	2		2					
35 - 45	1	2	1					
45 - 55	1				1			
55 - 65		1						
65 & over								
Not known								
TOTALS	4	4	3	-	1	-	-	-

COMMENT:

Notifications of new respiratory cases are three less than for the previous year.

One (male) death from the respiratory form of tuberculosis is recorded.

V.R. Walker.
District Medical Officer of Health.

June, 1964.

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1963

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

Mrs. Price and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my twenty second Annual Report upon the work carried out by the Public Health Department during the year ending December 31st 1963.

The Meat Inspection Regulations 1963 came into force on October 1st, 1963 and amongst other things required that all meat at slaughterhouses must be inspected. Because of the extensive slaughtering of pigs at the local bacon factory and because of the line system and speed of slaughtering it became essential to appoint a further public health inspector in order to cope with increased meat inspection and other duties. Meat inspection at the bacon factory involves about 38 inspector-hours per week, two inspectors being present during the total periods of slaughter. It will be apparent, therefore, that the time of one public health inspector is entirely committed to meat inspection.

Regarding housing, houses continue to be represented as unfit for human habitation and dealt with under the individual house provisions of the Housing Act, 1957. Improvement grants made during the year, discretionary and standard, increased from 28 in 1962 to 57. Houses in multiple occupation continue to present the department with many difficult problems, involving a great deal of time being spent by the inspectors, often out of office hours.

During the year also the Council became the authority responsible for the administration of the Shops Acts and the Young Persons Employment Act, 1938. Inspections and enforcement duties are to be carried out by the Public Health Inspectors.

I again express my thanks to the staff for their valuable assistance and to all the Council's officials for their continued co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

N. HOLT.
Chief Public Health Inspector.

June, 1964.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS' VISITS
AND NOTICES SERVED DURING
THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st 1963
NATURE OF VISIT OR INSPECTION

GENERAL SANITATION

Water supply	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Drainage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	327
Stables and piggeries	.	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Caravans	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	182
Factories	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	53
Workplaces	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23
Refuse and salvage collection	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	396
Refuse disposal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	98
Rats and mice	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
Smoke observations and other visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Boiler plants	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	50
Petroleum installations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	43
Swimming pools	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	434

HOUSING

Under Public Health Acts:-

Number of houses inspected	..	..	..	..	109
Visits paid to above houses	..	..	..	..	372

Under Housing Acts:-

Number of houses inspected	..	..	..	..	27
Visits paid to above houses	..	..	..	..	416

Overcrowding:-

Number of houses inspected	..	..	..	..	3
Visits paid to above houses	..	..	..	..	15

Houses in Multiple Occupation:-

Number of houses inspected	..	..	..	..	22
Visits paid to above houses	..	..	..	..	162

Rent Act 1957:-

Inspections in connection with certificates of disrepair	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
All revisits	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Inquiries in case of Infectious Diseases	..	1
Inquiries in case of Food Poisoning	.. ..	-
Other visits re Food Poisoning..	.. ..	-

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

Inspection of meat:-

Visits to slaughterhouses	.. ..	605
Visits to shops and stalls	6

Food Inspection:-

Visits to shops and stalls	50
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Visits to:-

Butchers	25
Fishmongers and poulterers	17
Fish Friers	4
Food Preparing Premises	12
Grocers	.. ..	39
Greengrocers and fruiterers	.. ..	23
Dairies and milkshops	.. ..	7
Ice cream premises	.. ..	28
Bakehouses	.. ..	16
Market stalls	.. ..	49
Restaurants	.. ..	58
Canteens, etc.	.. ..	42
Street vendors and hawkers carts	.. ..	7
Licensed premises	.. ..	9

Visits in connection with sampling (bacteriological):-

Milk	.. ..	47
Ice Cream	.. ..	92

NOTICES SERVED

Number of Informal Notices served	.. ..	81
Number of Informal Notices complied with	..	81
Number of Statutory Notices served	.. ..	10
Number of Statutory Notices complied with	..	13

IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE PUBLIC

HEALTH INSPECTORS

HOUSES, ETC.

Roofs repaired	41
Chimney stacks pointed or repaired	7
Chimney pots provided	1
Flashings repaired or replaced	11
Eavesgutters repaired or renewed	45
Rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	25
Rainwater pipes disconnected from drains	5
Roof timbers repaired or replaced.. .. .	6
Walls pointed or repaired	23
Walls cement rendered	2
Windows repaired	22
Windows provided or replaced.. .. .	29
New window sashcords provided	3
New window fasteners provided	3
Doors repaired (external)	7
Doors provided or replaced (external)	10
Doors provided (internal)	34
Doors repaired (internal)	1
Door fasteners repaired or replaced	2
Door steps provided or repaired	1
New yard surfaces provided	6
Yard surfaces relaid or repaired	5
Yard surfaces where proper means of drainage provided	1
Ceilings where plaster, etc. repaired or replaced	43
Ceilings cleansed	10
Rooms where walls cleansed	14
Floors relaid or repaired	41
Rooms where skirting board repaired or replaced ..	5
Firegrates repaired	5
New firegrates provided	14
New ranges provided	1
Hearths repaired or replaced	6
Chimney flues repaired	6
Staircases repaired	6
Rooms where lighting improved	14
Rooms where ventilation improved	2
Rooms where dampness remedied	16
New sinks provided	16
Sinks repaired	2
Trapped sink waste pipes provided	16
New washbasins provided	19

continued:-

IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE PUBLIC

HEALTH INSPECTORS - continued:

HOUSES, ETC.

Trapped washbasin waste pipes provided	19
New baths provided	22
Trapped bath waste pipes provided	20
Rooms where wallplaster etc.repaired or replaced	56
Rooms decorated	10
Firegrate repaired	1
Hot water systems provided	21
Houses where water service pipes repaired . ..	15
Houses where water supply provided inside the house	-
Ventilated food stores provided	21
Houses painted externally	2

Drainage:-

New drains constructed	16
Old drains reconstructed	13
Drains repaired	7
Drains ventilated	1
Drains cleansed	40
Inspection chambers provided	26
Inspection chambers repaired	2
Inspection chamber covers provided	7
Self-cleansing gullies provided	10
Soil pipes provided or repaired	9

Waterclosets:-

Roofs repaired	4
W.Cs where walls repaired	1
New basins fixed	25
W.Cs where connections repaired	4
Cisterns repaired or renewed	32
W.Cs provided with a sufficient supply of water	9
New flush pipes fixed	13
Doors repaired or renewed	7
W.C. seats repaired or replaced	2
Floors repaired	7
W.Cs. decorated	3
W.Cs. where lighting improved	1

MISCELLANEOUS

Accumulations of refuse removed	13
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SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) Water.

With the exception of a few outlying houses, which have satisfactory private sources, Hitchin obtains its water from piped supplies controlled by the Lee Valley Water Company.

Water is obtained from three wells (1) Temple End, Charlton, (2) Oughton Head and (3) Offley Bottom. The latter two are situated in the rural district just outside the Urban boundary. An adequate supply was maintained from the above sources and no restrictions were necessary during the year. The water is satisfactory in quality. 150 bacteriological and 14 chemical samples of the water supplied in the district were taken during the year and examined at the Company's own laboratory. All the samples were found to be satisfactory. The water from the wells is hard and therefore no trouble is experienced due to plumbo-solvency.

The number of dwelling houses supplied with water from public mains direct into the house is 8,142 serving approximately 24,280 persons, whilst the number of dwelling houses supplied with water from public mains by means of stand-pipes is 30 serving approximately 89 persons. In the case of 23 houses the water supply is provided in an outbuilding.

(ii) Drainage and Sewerage.

Extensions to the soil and stormwater sewers were carried out during the year on the Rosehill Estate.

2. Rivers and Streams.

No action taken.

3. (i) Closet Accommodation.

With the exception of 3 of the 22 houses comprising the main village of Charlton, and a few outlying premises, the whole of the district is provided with waterclosets, which, excluding a few waterclosets discharging into cesspools, are connected to the Council's sewers. The 3 houses mentioned above are provided with pail closets.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA. Continued:-

3. (ii) Public Cleansing - Refuse Collection.

The conversion to the paper sack system continued during the year and approximately four fifths of the district, less the central shopping area, were on the system by the end of 1963.

The year saw this new system further increase in popularity and several local authorities committed themselves to a changeover from dustbins to paper sacks. Certainly since Hitchin installed the system it has been possible to recruit and retain labour for refuse collection, a very difficult problem for other authorities in this particular area of full employment.

(iii) Public Health Inspection of the Area.

See pages 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11.

(iv) Shops and Offices

Numerous visits were made to shops and offices and the following works were carried out after written or verbal notices:-

Existing sanitary accommodation reconstructed	1
No. of new w.c. basins fixed	3
No. of w.c.'s where walls repaired or renewed	2
" " " " floor renewed or repaired	2
" " " " permanent means of ventilation provided	2
Means of heating provided or improved	3

(v) Caravans.

At 31st December, 1963, 10 licences had been granted authorising the use of land as sites for caravans. The number of caravans covered by the licences is 112.

The problem of unauthorised parking of caravans by gipsies and other travellers still continues on certain sites such as Oughton Head Common, Icknield Way, Stotfold Road and Ninesprings. The inspectors constantly urge the offenders to move along, often with the help of police, but periodically they return to continue their undesirable habits of breaking up cars etc. and strewing the countryside with litter of all descriptions.

(vi) Clean Air.

Observations of industrial chimneys were made during 1963 together with 21 advisory visits to the boiler plants concerned. Liaison still continues with the Surveyor's Department regarding the height of chimneys when new boilers are to be installed and the necessary plans, etc., are submitted.

(vii) Swimming Baths.

There are three swimming baths in the district, (a) a public open-air swimming bath maintained by the Council, comprising a main and children's pool, (b) a private open-air swimming bath at the Girls' Grammar School and (c) a Parent/Teacher Association pool at Purwell Primary School.

86 samples of water in the two pools at the Council's baths were taken, 43 being submitted to a bacteriological examination and 43 to a residual chlorine test. All the samples were reported upon as satisfactory.

The two pools at the public baths are filled from a main water supply. The water is continuously circulated and purified by pressure sand filtration and chlorination. The filtration plant has a turnover period of about four hours.

The County Health Department took samples of the water in the Girl's Grammar School bath and Purwell Primary School pool during the year.

(viii) Inspection of Common Lodging houses

There are no common lodging houses registered in Hitchin.

4. Schools.

No action taken.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

1. (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected
for housing defects (under Public Health
or Housing Acts)... .. 136

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 788

2. (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under
sub-head (1) above) which were inspected
and recorded under the Housing Consolidated
Regulations 1925... .. 9

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 27

3. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state
so dangerous or injurious to health as to be
unfit for human habitation 9

4. Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those
referred to under the preceding sub-head) found
not to be in all respects reasonably fit for
human habitation 127

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF
FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in
consequence of informal action by the Local Authority
or their Officers 72

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

(A) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 12 of the
Housing Act, 1957:

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of
which notices were served requiring repairs -

continued:-

(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:		
(a)	By Owners	-
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners ..	-
(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:		
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	3
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(a)	By Owners	3
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners..	-
(C) Proceedings under Sections 16, 17, 23 and Part 3 of the Housing Act, 1957:		
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	16
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were revoked	-
(3)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	8
(4)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which undertakings to make fit were accepted from owners, etc.	-
(5)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which undertakings not to use for human habitation until made fit were accepted from owners, etc.	2
(6)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Clearance or Compulsory Purchase Orders	-

continued:-

(1b) Proceedings under Sections 16, 17, 18 and 28
of the Housing Act, 1957:

(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	-
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit	-
(3)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	1
(4)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the house having been rendered fit	2
(5)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were revoked and Demolition Orders made	1
(6)	Number of dwelling houses owned by local Authority certified as unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	-

4. OVERCROWDING.

(a)	(1)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	2
	(2)	Number of families dwelling therein ..	3
	(3)	Number of persons dwelling therein	10
(b)	(1)	Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year.. .. .	1
(c)	(1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year.. .. .	1
	(2)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	11
(d)		Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority has taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding:	
	(1)	Number of cases	-
	(2)	Number of families concerned	-
	(3)	Number of persons	-

5. IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

(1) Number of discretionary improvement grants made	13
(2) Number in (1) above made to owner/occupiers	2
(3) Number of houses where discretionary improvement grant works completed	4
(4) Number of standard improvement grants made	43
(5) Number in (4) above made to owner/occupiers	31
(6) Number of houses where standard improvement grant works completed	29

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply.

There are seven distributors of milk in the district and three premises are used as dairies.

Inspections of the dairies were made during the year under the Milk and Dairies Regulations.

During the year 132 samples of milk were taken and submitted to bacteriological examination with the following results:-

Number of Samples	Class of Milk	Methylene Blue Test	Phosphatase Test	Percentage Satisfactory
40	Pasteurised	38 Satisfied 2 Failed	40 Satisfied	95%
24	Pasteurised (Channel Island)	22 Satisfied 2 Failed	24 Satisfied	91.6%
49	Tuberculin Tested	44 Satisfied 5 Failed	49 Satisfied	89.8%
		Turbidity Test		
19	Sterilised	19 Satisfied		100%

The majority of the samples were bottled milk taken in the course of delivery to the consumer.

(b) Meat and Foods.

The only premises licensed by the Council to keep for use a slaughterhouse is the Herts. and Beds. Co-operative Bacon Factory, where extensive slaughtering of pigs is carried out. 48, 164 pigs were killed and inspected at the Bacon Factory during the year. After the coming into operation of the Meat Inspection Regulations on October 1st two public health inspectors were employed on the slaughtering line at the same time inspecting the slaughtered pigs. The time spent by each inspector is approximately equivalent to five half days per week. The Council make a charge to the factory of 5d per pig slaughtered and inspected.

The following table gives details of the number of animals killed, inspected and found to be diseased, unsound or unfit for food. The diseased or unsound meat is voluntarily surrendered and disposed of so as not to be used for human consumption.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	-	-	-	-	48,164	-
Number inspected	-	-	-	-	48,164	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned.	-	-	-	-	98	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci.	-	-	-	-	28.3	-
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-	-	450	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis.	-	-	-	-	.93	-
<u>Cysticercosis.</u>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cases submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	-

The following table gives summarised information relating to the carcasses, offal, etc., condemned at the Herts. and Beds. Co-operative Bacon Factory.

<u>TUBERCULOSIS</u>							lb.
386 Pigs' heads	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,830
62 Pigs' stomachs	..	..	..	..	..	..	496
Trimnings	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
							<hr/> 5,332 <hr/>

<u>OTHER DISEASES</u>							
1 Pigs' Carcase	..	..	..	Toxaemia			273
1 do.	..	..	..	Oedema			176
3 do.	..	..	..	Pyæmia			161
1 do.	..	..	..	Foetal Decomposition			318
2 do.	..	..	..	Uraemia			372
31 do.	..	..	..	Fevered			4,558
23 do.	..	..	..	Moribund			2,826
6 do.	..	..	..	Emaciation			354
1 do.	..	..	..	Jaundice			375
2 do.	..	..	..	Pleurisy			237
8 do.	..	..	..	Acute Septic Peritonitis			690
5 do.	..	..	..	Severe Bruising			1,127
11 do.	..	..	..	Multiple Abscesses			1,180
3 do.	..	..	..	Erysipelas			403
1,362 Pigs' hearts	..	..	..	Pericarditis			681
8,060 Pigs' lungs	..	..	..	Congestion			24,180
2,129 Pigs' livers	..	..	..	Cirrhosis			8,516
295 Pigs' stomachs	..	..	..	Inflammation			2,360
108 Pigs' heads	..	..	..	Abscesses			1,380
591 Pigs' kidneys	..	..	..	Cysts			148
430 Pigs' flares	..	..	..	Inflammation			1,290
46 Pigs' fillets	..	..	..	Inflammation			34
103 Pigs' fore legs	..	..	..	Broken & Bruised			733
126 Pigs' hocks	..	..	..	Broken & Bruised			332
185 Pigs' back legs	..	..	..	Broken & Bruised			1,973
40 Hindquarters	..	..	..	Bruised			1,281
Trimnings etc...	..	..	..	Bruised			2,441
							<hr/> 58,399 <hr/>

TOTAL 28 tons. 9 cwts. 0 qrs. 3 lb.

Numerous visits were made to butcher's shops, food shops and other food preparing premises where the following quantities of foodstuffs were found to be unsound, unfit for food, and were voluntarily surrendered by the owners and disposed of so as not to be used for human consumption.

Meat from Butcher's Shops

Beef	Decomposition	lb.	275
Ham.	Decomposition	lb.	18
<u>TOTAL 2 cwts 2 qrs. 13 lb.</u>			

General.

Miscellaneous tinned and packed foods	638
Miscellaneous tinned meats	154
Fish	41
Fruit	t. cwts. qr. lb.
	8 13 2 17
<u>TOTAL</u>	9 1 - 10

Grand total of foodstuffs condemned. (All classes)

37 tons 12 cwts. 2 qrs. 26 lb.

ICE CREAM.

The number of premises registered under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the storage and sale of ice cream is 93.

Frequent visits were made to the foregoing premises to enforce the provisions of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment etc.) Regulations, 1959, and for the purpose of sampling. Regarding sampling 51 samples of ice cream and 27 of "soft" ice cream were taken.

Ice Cream.

Grade I	..	..	..	..	..	46)	Satisfactory.
Grade II	..	..	..	..	..	2)	
Grade III	..	..	..	..	..	1)	Unsatisfactory.
Grade IV	..	..	..	..	..	2)	

"Soft" Ice Cream.

Grade I	..	..	..	..	..	20)	Satisfactory.
Grade II	..	..	..	..	..	3)	
Grade III	..	..	..	..	..	3)	Unsatisfactory.
Grade IV.	..	..	..	..	..	1)	

One of the main problems which presents itself when "soft" ice cream is manufactured on a vehicle is the cleaning and sterilisation of the soft serve machine. In most cases this operation has to be carried out by the salesman at the end of a long day's work when he is less likely to take the necessary care.

Unfortunately at the present time there is no power to require the registration of a mobile vehicle manufacturing and retailing ice cream as is the case with shops, stores, etc. because a vehicle does not constitute "premises" within the meaning of Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN.

There are 275 food premises in the area consisting of 55 grocers, 29 confectioners (sweets), 12 confectioners (cakes etc), 22 greengrocers, 5 fish friers, 7 fishmongers, 2 poulterers, 21 butchers, 49 restaurant kitchens (including industrial and school canteens), 8 food factories, 9 bakehouses, 54 licensed premises and 2 warehouses, the latter being used for the storage of food only.

2. The following premises are registered under Section 16, Food and Drugs Act 1955; 18 butchers (for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pickled, pressed or preserved food) 1 butcher (for the pickling of meat), 2 fishmongers (for the preservation of fish), 4 food factories (for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pickled, pressed or preserved food) 3 grocers (for the cooking of ham) 1 grocer and 1 fishmonger (for the roasting of chickens). Regarding ice cream 93 premises are registered for the storage and sale of ice cream; 36 grocers, 6 greengrocers, 25 confectioners (sweets) and 26 general premises. 1 premise is licensed for the storage of ice cream only.
3. Regarding inspection of food premises see (5) below.
4. Condemned food is disposed of at the premises of the Herts. and Beds. Co-operative Bacon Factory, where it is processed in a digester plant.
5. The following improvements were carried out during the year to premises used for preparation, sale, etc., of food:-

Washing Facilities.

Number of new sinks provided	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Number of new washbasins provided	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Number of new draining boards provided	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Number of double sink units provided	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Number of trapped waste pipes provided	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Number of defective sinks renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Number of fitments provided with running hot and cold water	..	..	..	..	..	..	5

Structural Work.

Number of rooms where walls repaired or improved	..	..	..	..	..	5
Number of rooms where floors repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	..	5
Number of rooms where walls decorated	..	..	..	..	..	17
Number of rooms where ceilings repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	..	4
Number of rooms where ceilings decorated	..	..	..	..	..	18
Number of rooms where woodwork decorated	..	..	..	..	..	17
Number of rooms where new floor coverings provided	..	..	..	..	..	2

Equipment.

Number of premises where new equipment provided	2
Number of premises where equipment renovated	1
Number of premises where new counter tops installed	4
Number of premises where new shop fronts provided	3
Number of premises where refrig: display cabinets provided	5

Food Hygiene.

Number of premises where suitable overalls and head covering provided	3
Number of premises where suitable cloakroom facilities provided	1
Number of premises where suitable soap and towels provided	8
Number of premises where first aid box provided	9
Number of rooms where walls and floors, etc. cleansed	10

Kitchen Utensils -- Bacteriological Swabs.

During 1963, 73 visits ~~were~~ made to food preparing premises and 247 swabs of kitchen utensils were taken for bacteriological examination.

Each swab is cultivated for two different times and temperatures and bacterial counts made. No official standard is laid down but a utensil is regarded as satisfactory if the average of both counts is not more than 100 organisms per utensil and faecal coliform is absent. 182 samples passed the unofficial standard and 65 failed.

Utensil cleansing techniques are constantly under supervision and methods, materials and equipment are constantly improving.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1963.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1961.

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PART I OF THE ACT

1. Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register		Number of	Occupiers Prosecuted
		Inspec- tions	Written Notices	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	16	3		
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	164	50		
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises).	2	-		
TOTAL -	182	53		

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	3	3	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7):-					
(a) Insufficient	2	2	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	7	7	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes.	2	2	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:-	14	14	-	-	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

OUTWORK (SECTIONS 133 and 134).

Nature of Work	Section 133			Section 134		
	Number of outworkers in August list required by Section 133 (1)(c)	Number of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	Number of prosecutions for failure to supply lists.	Number of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Clothing manufacture	38	-	-	-	-	-

